

REMARKS

Applicants amended the specification to address an objection. Applicants also amended claims 1, 14, and 15, and added new claims 34-45. Claims 1-4, 9-11, 14, 15, and 34-45 are presented for examination.

Prior to this Reply, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 9-11, 14, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,402,796 (Johnson).

Johnson describes sputtering *a* cathode material, such as LiCoO₂ or an insulator, onto a substrate. (See, e.g., col. 3, lines 24-46.). But Johnson does not disclose or suggest forming a layer including a cathode *mixture*, as claimed. For at least these reasons, Applicants request that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

New claims 34-45 are also patentable over Johnson. For example, Johnson does not disclose or suggest forming a layer including a cathode mixture having an electrode active material and a solvent on a substrate, or forming a first layer including a cathode slurry mixture on a substrate, as claimed.

Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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